

Remarks**Claim Objections**

Claims 12 and 14 have been corrected to remove reference to "channels".

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-2, 4-6, 9-11 and 13 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Wegner (US 6,728,554). Reconsideration is urged.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a "multiple input multiple-output (MIMO) radio communications device". Each input received by one of the diverse directional antenna beams is a MIMO channel. Claim 1 further specifies "a processor arranged to operate on outputs of multiple receive chains to produce an output signal".

Examiner reasons that Wegner teaches a multiple input multiple output communications device, and points to Figure 1 as providing support for this rejection. Wegner shows an antenna array for a base station which is capable of simultaneously receiving signals from a plurality of users. However, this is not the same as a multiple input multiple output (MIMO) device. A MIMO communications device uses multiple simultaneous channels to support communications between a given pair of users. Figure 1 and page 1 line 22 – page 2 line 9 of the present application describe MIMO communications. Wegner does not mention this kind of communication, nor does Wegner hint at the applicability of the base station to MIMO communications. Wegner further fails to teach "a processor arranged to operate on outputs of multiple receive chains to produce an output signal".


Independent claims 11 and 13 have been amended in a similar manner to claim 1 and are also considered allowable for the same reasons as claim 1.

Arguments about all of the dependent claims have not been presented as the Examiner's rejections are traversed in view of the dependence of these claims on an allowable base claims.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance. Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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